

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JULY 3, 2013

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 50

Introduced by Senator Hueso

(Principal coauthors: Senators Beall, Cannella, Correa, Leno, Liu, and Wright)

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Alejo, Brown, Buchanan, Campos, Dickinson, ~~and Lowenthal~~ *Lowenthal, Allen, Atkins, Bigelow, Bloom, Bonilla, Bonta, Bradford, Ian Calderon, Chau, Chesbro, Conway, Cooley, Dahle, Daly, Eggman, Fong, Fox, Frazier, Beth Gaines, Garcia, Gatto, Gomez, Gonzalez, Gordon, Gorell, Gray, Grove, Hagman, Hall, Harkey, Roger Hernández, Jones, Levine, Linder, Logue, Maienschein, Mansoor, Medina, Melendez, Mitchell, Morrell, Mullin, Muratsuchi, Nazarian, Nestande, Olsen, Patterson, John A. Pérez, V. Manuel Pérez, Quirk, Rendon, Salas, Skinner, Stone, Wagner, Waldron, Weber, Wieckowski, Wilk, and Yamada*)

June 4, 2013

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 50—Relative to Dropout Recovery Week.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 50, as amended, Hueso. Dropout Recovery Week.

This measure would declare the week of August 4, 2013, to August 10, 2013, inclusive, to be Dropout Recovery Week, and would state the Legislature's intent to encourage the support of dropout recovery high schools with creative teaching strategies, alternative assessments, and adequate resources.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Research suggests that fewer than 73 percent of
2 9th grade pupils in California, and in some school districts fewer
3 than 50 percent, graduate from high school; and

4 WHEREAS, Research by the Alliance for Excellent Education
5 concludes that if only one-half of the dropouts from a single year
6 were to earn a diploma, the economic benefits to California would
7 be staggering: those recovered dropouts would earn an additional
8 \$1.4 billion each year, increase home sales by \$4.5 billion during
9 their careers, support an additional 8,700 jobs to the midpoint of
10 their careers, and increase state and local tax revenues by \$167
11 million every year; and

12 WHEREAS, Research further shows that reengaged learners
13 demonstrate higher civic engagement, contribute to the cultural
14 strengths of their communities, and are significantly less likely to
15 be unemployed, on public assistance, or arrested for a violent
16 crime; and

17 WHEREAS, There exist dropout recovery high schools in
18 California that provide significant social, economic, and academic
19 benefits to their pupils and to California's population as a whole
20 by reenrolling over 23,000 former dropouts; and

21 WHEREAS, Dropout recovery high schools face significant
22 challenges in reengaging pupils, including: (1) dropouts often
23 perform significantly below grade level; (2) dropouts suffer years
24 of academic and behavioral difficulties, absenteeism, and stressful
25 life circumstances; and (3) pupils who have dropped out once are
26 significantly more likely to drop out again; and

27 WHEREAS, Research by WestEd found that one-half of the
28 dropouts who return to school stay for one year or less, one-third
29 of returning dropouts fail to complete even one course after they
30 reenroll, and as few as 18 percent of returning dropouts graduate;
31 and

32 WHEREAS, Successful dropout recovery high schools utilize
33 multiple strategies, including state-of-the-art technology, career
34 technical education to reach a variety of learning modalities,
35 accelerated learning pedagogies, competency-based, rather than
36 seat-time-based, instruction, and open entry and open exit
37 enrollment; and

38 WHEREAS, Successful dropout recovery high schools attract
39 and retain high-quality staff committed to meeting the instructional

1 needs of the whole pupil and transforming their pupils from being
2 at risk of failure to being successful; now, therefore, be it

3 *Resolved, by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
4 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby declares the week
5 of August 4, 2013, to August 10, 2013, inclusive, to be Dropout
6 Recovery Week, in honor of the schools and staff who work to
7 reengage pupils who have previously dropped out of school, and
8 in honor of the pupils who have overcome significant personal
9 challenges to reengage in high school and become transformed
10 learners who continue to pursue education in preparation for college
11 and a future career; and be it further

12 *Resolved*, That the Legislature intends to encourage the support
13 of dropout recovery high schools with creative teaching strategies,
14 alternative assessments, and adequate resources; and be it further

15 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
16 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.